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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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NEW WEAPONS REQUIRE SOUND TACTICS

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 1, Jan 87 & No 2, Feb 87

[Jan 87 pp 16, 18]

[Text]

ANY combat is governed by certain rules reflecting objectively the nature and laws of armed conflict. Marshal of the Soviet Union G. K. Zhukov said that he never failed to stick to the rules when preparing operations, though he understood very well that too much formalism would hardly bring success in combat, battle or operation.

A commanding officer must follow the principles of tactics to establish the most rational solution in a given situation. He must understand profoundly the mechanism whereby these principles are dependent on the level of war technology, the character of hostilities and other factors. For example, as the policies of the USA and NATO become more aggression-oriented and their armies more equipped with automated weapon systems, the principle of maintaining constantly a high level of

combat readiness is becoming increasingly important. The present-day US and NATO warfare concepts are based on surprise preemptive attack, and therefore it is up to every army unit and naval ship to be ready to come into combat instantly as a well organised force.

One of the reasons why some armies have failed in past wars to repulse surprise attacks was that their reconnaissance was inadequate and the systems they

New forms and methods of warfare are inevitable as more advanced means of destruction, control, reconnaissance and logistics come to army and navy forces. How do new weapons affect tactics? How are commanding and staff officers to respond in practical terms? Major-General Ivan VOROBYOV offers some answers.

used for bringing troops into combat readiness were too cumbersome. This was because intelligence had been gathered and processed too slowly and the orders given to units and firing posts were not clear enough, sometimes late in coming and even contradictory that the aggressor gained the initiative.

To maintain an army at a high level of combat readiness every day is difficult. Apart from practical knowledge of modern warfare and ability to assess the enemy's strong and weak points quickly, there must be a high level of training, political and military vigilance, strong military discipline, order and efficiency. The skills and morale of personnel are also vital.

A high degree of proficiency on combat alert duty is important because the NATO armies have quick-acting long-range weapons. Combat alert duty forces being the front-line echelon, they are not only meant to guard units and

ships against surprise attacks but should be ready to come into combat instantly and repel the first attack. There must not be the slightest mistake or misaction nor any deviation from manual requirements. Timing is crucial on combat alert duty. Seconds count here. A modern high-speed target, be it an aircraft, cruise missile or unmanned craft, travels a kilometre and a rocket 8 kilometres per second.

High mobility, determination and continuity of action have always been effective tactical principles. In the Great Patriotic War, for example, Soviet commanding officers' bold and initiative actions proved effective when their forces were outnumbered by the enemy's. Today, when more powerful and more mobile weapons and equipment are used, it is much more important for commanders to take and hold the initiative.

For offensive operations, the principle of increased troop activity refers to applying in-depth fire blows and defeating methods to split the defending forces and destroy them; to rapid negotiation of obstacles, obstructions and ruins; and to uninterrupted action at a high rate day and night, under any weather conditions. "Speed is the principal means to destroy an enemy quick. The velocity of action must be such that the enemy will be behind time everywhere. We must train our troops to act rapidly," said Marshal G. K. Zhukov.

In defence operations, the principle lies in various types of formation, fire and anti-tank screens to offset the oncoming enemy forces; use of resolute counter-attacks; rapid recovery of fighting efficiency; and provision of suitable conditions for a switch to the offensive.

Advances in warfare technology have also altered the principle of surprise. In the past, passive methods were mainly used to achieve surprise — such as all types of masking actions, decoy objects, demonstrative moves, smoke screens etc. Today, active measures are much more important. They include surprise manoeuvres both on land and in the air, unexpected offensive and non-stereotype battle formation and systems of fire destruction. Automated reconnaissance systems and computer-based homing ammunition are now in wide use to disarray the enemy's troop and weapon control systems. The idea is to make the enemy "blind" long before the commencement of actual action by disabling his reconnaissance, observation, warning and guidance systems before a surprise attack. For example, in the Middle-East wars waged by the imperialists (1973 and 1982) electronic warfare means were mainly used for the purpose. They produced radio-electronic jamming on a mass scale, while powerful air attacks, and sometimes sea attacks as well, were delivered.

New high-tech weapons and reconnaissance systems have made it possible to use surprise on a much wider

scale than earlier. Skilful application of this principle guarantees a victory. History has shown that the greatest commanders apply skilfully the techniques of surprise and military deception.

Another area which calls for great expertise by commanding and staff officers is cooperation. A feature of modern warfare is that more and more personnel and materiel are involved in battle. So the tension of fighting really peaks and the likelihood that the situation may change quickly and sharply is very great. Therefore it is only through detailed and comprehensive calculation and consideration of technological possibilities and the tactical actions of the enemy that the efforts of motorised infantry units and tank units can be cooperated and coordinated with missiles, aircraft and other attack weapons.

The system of cooperation may be thwarted suddenly if the opponent brings into action nuclear and high-precision weapons. Accordingly, commanding and staff officers must know precisely how things will develop, they must predict the possible complications and take the necessary measures in time to avoid crisis. At the same time they must be able to specify the missions of individual subunits quickly enough and control their actions firmly and continually.

[Text]

WE CAN see clearly how closely the advance of weapons technology and tactics are interwoven by referring to troop and materiel concentration. This principle was well in use even at the earliest stages of development of tactics, mainly in the form of the massing of large infantry and cavalry troops, and at a later date of artillery as well, to strike at a key sector.

Later, as more effective weapons and other combat equipment came, concentration began to assume more flexible, more varied and more complex forms.

In the post-war period, nuclear missile weapons have changed drastically the content of this principle. The traditional offensive concentration method, much used in the Second World War (to the order of 200–260 guns, 20–30 or more tanks, 3–5 battalions per 1 km of the front line) seems no longer reasonable, because too concentrated positions are likely to form a target conspicuous enough for enemy nuclear weapons. Moreover, it seems no longer needful to concentrate manpower and equipment too densely at a penetration area. By mounting a nuclear attack the offensive side may be able to make a breach in the enemy's defence lines, tipping the balance of forces in its own favour sharply and

quickly. As a result, the very definition of the principle has changed. This principle must now be defined as decisive concentration of the major efforts of forces at the right moment, in the most important sector, for key goals.

Maximum use of the might of weapons rather than troop concentration is now first priority in locating the major efforts of forces. This does not mean, however, that strike forces are not to be concentrated at key sectors at all. In fact, they are, even when using nuclear weapons, as some foreign military experts believe. Referring to the NATO training exercises, the following densities in the concentration of personnel and materiel in a penetration area are common today: up to 30 tanks, 40–50 guns, some 50 anti-tank weapons and 15–20 helicopters per 1 km of the front line.

The advent in the NATO armies of highly effective homing and ammunition, air blast and cluster bombs, shells and mines, multiple launch rocket systems, combat helicopters etc. has changed even further the principle of concentration of major efforts at key sectors. To begin with, combat can now be undertaken with a considerably lower amount of personnel and materiel, at shorter times, even in those sectors where troops are acting without nuclear weapons. Secondly, it is now possible to strike hostile positions throughout their depth simultaneously. And this is the case for a new

appraisal of the necessity to obtain requisite manpower and equipment densities in the main direction, both when breaking through fortified lines and concentrating the main troop effort in defence; and for other approaches to defining criteria of combat formations dispersal to assure their high survivability and reliable protection against powerful attacks.

In-depth strikes are needed because the enemy's most powerful fast-acting destructive means are mostly concentrated in the depth of its tactical defence zone. Referring to the NATO experience again, as much as two thirds of the defence forces, including tactical nuclear attack weapons, and the majority of long-range artillery, anti-aircraft weapons, combat helicopters, tactical aviation airfields, reserves and control posts are often concentrated in the depth of defence lines. It is clear that the attacker would not be able to defeat the enemy without constant, practically incessant, impact of fire and troops on such key defence elements.

There is another entirely new requirement with regard to decisive concentration of major troops' efforts on the offensive: today it is no longer possible to set up a single strike grouping before setting out to go ahead with a mission. In fact, commanders and staffs today have to maintain qualitative and quantitative superiority at key sectors throughout the whole offensive operation.

A great deal of expertise on the part of commanders

and staffs is needed to be able to choose the right areas in which to concentrate major efforts in defence. Concentration of this kind will enable them to set up location of personnel and materiel capable of repelling in-depth air-land attacks of superior hostile forces while using *en masse* most advanced high-precision weapons, motorised troops, electronic warfare means and remote mining systems.

The skill with which commanders and staffs can apply the principle of manoeuvring is indicative of their tactical maturity. The principle is very important indeed in all types of combat. For example, it may be a manoeuvre to concentrate efforts for fighting hostile high-precision weapons or mobile anti-tank helicopter forces, or to withdraw forces and evade the fire of high-precision systems, or anti-helicopter manoeuvre. To retaliate effectively it is important to discover in time an imminent hostile attack in which nuclear and high-precision combat means may be used.

To do this, commanders and staffs must be able to carry out a firing duel with fast-acting hostile weapons, defeat such weapons at a single launch and at maximum range, actively counter-act raids, envelopment and turning movements, quickly destroy airborne and amphibious troops and commando forces, and perform diversion manoeuvres.

The astounding progress of the firepower of high-precision weapons in the NATO

member-states' armies has made the principle of over-all combat support and security even more important. It is now very essential to prevent surprise attack or render it less effective. Reconnaissance is of special importance in this. It must be more active, more efficient and more operational, especially where targets have to be spotted quickly. The foreign press says the depth of reconnaissance zones is now five or six times as great as before and the accuracy with which target coordinates are to be determined is by an order of magnitude higher. Reconnaissance information is generally delivered to control bodies in real-time.

Camouflage is of special importance in modern warfare. It is now very difficult to disguise guns, ships etc. because reconnaissance has become highly effective. To be successful, commanders must use a wide variety of forms of camouflage and concealment, unexpected actions, various decoy measures, dummy dispositions, dummy firing positions and control stations etc.

* * *

New weapons have changed tactics. A commander must be resourceful and skilful enough to apply the new principles to tactics with ingenuity.

MILITARY SCIENCE

ARMY GEN MAKSIMOV ON ASPECTS OF MILITARY DOCTRINE

Moscow NEW TIMES in English 26 Dec 86 pp 12-14

[Article by V. Ostrovsky]

[Text]

The morning the commander of the missile forces received our correspondent began as usual with a situation report by the officer in command of the combat duty team. General Maksimov's reply was brief: "Report accepted. Carry on."

That day the general had returned from an inspection of troops during which he checked their combat readiness and training. His schedule for the day included three conferences with senior officers of the missile command to analyze the results of his inspection. The day-to-day duties of all soldiers, sergeants, officers and generals are subordinate to one aim: to keep the huge striking power of nuclear arms in a state of high combat readiness, ensuring accurate blows at targets of a potential enemy in any situation. The men of the rocket forces are on round-the-clock combat alert and for this reason alone resemble the frontier guards who protect our borders. It is only that in the missile forces the strain and responsibility are still greater.

A strategic missile is a sophisticated flying vehicle both with regard to design and functioning in flight. Its range in practical terms is unlimited and its combat use does not depend on weather conditions or the time of day or season of the year. The more sophisticated the strategic system, the higher the combat training of the crews and the more reliable their performance of their task.

Every strategic missile has a "brain"—an instrument controlling its movement in the three planes of its flight trajectory: up and down—pitch, right and left—yaw, and roll. To ensure the missile's accurate flight, the crew perform scheduled maintenance, constantly checking the reliability of its various units and systems, and the systems and devices of the launch complex. In this respect their work resembles that of ground crews at airfields without which not a single combat plane could take off. The daily routine of the missile forces includes excellent maintenance of the ground equipment which ensures high homing accuracy, and exemplary execution of practice launchings which put all systems, services and crews to the test.

The Headquarters of the Strategic Missile Forces can be called the "heart" of these troops. So my first question to the commander was:

What worries you?

I am worried by the persistent desire of the United States to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union and secure the possibility of delivering a first nuclear strike at our country with impunity.

In these conditions the preservation of strategic nuclear parity acquires special importance. And we missilemen regard this as one of our paramount tasks. It is our duty to prevent the other side from acquiring superiority over us in technology, combat readiness and the training of personnel. We are working on this.

What are the guarantees of strategic systems' reliability?

First of all, their high combat preparedness and ability to perform their tasks in any conditions, that is, to repel the aggressor, no matter what kind of strategic armaments he uses, space ones included.

Our country stands for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and for reducing military potential to reasonable limits. But the character and level of this ceiling continue to be restricted by the attitudes and actions of the United States and its partners in NATO. As was said at the 27th CPSU Congress, under these conditions "the Soviet Union lays no claim to greater security than that enjoyed by others but it will not settle for less."

What is the role of serviceman in handling modern automated control systems?

The more sophisticated the arms, the greater the automation of control processes and the more significant the role of the human factor. And here the question is not only one of raising the level of knowledge and skills of military experts.

Automated systems have greatly accelerated the process of controlling weapons, and have at the same time made them collective weapons in the highest degree, when the successful fulfillment of the combat task depends on the sense of responsibility of every serviceman. So everything depends first of all on people, on crews.

Everything has been switched to electronics. So what are the functions of the Commander?

Missiles are controlled by men. Electronic devices are part of the technical means employed by the troops. This equipment can quickly collect, analyze and generalize information in any given situation and make correct decisions.

But electronics cannot take into account the full diversity of problems to be solved, especially in what concerns the training and education of the men, their mastering of new and complex types of equipment, and using and servicing it, and, most important, electronics cannot adopt a correct and responsible decision depending on the situation. So the use of electronics does not minimize the role of the men or that of the Commander.

The Strategic Missile Forces are entering the 27th year of their existence. Will you please comment on their development.

The creation of the Strategic Missile Forces was a forced necessity and served one purpose—to prevent a third world war.

In the past 26 years the rocket forces have passed the initial stage of their development and become a secure shield for our Motherland. They are armed with highly accurate inter-continental missiles, medium-range missiles, fail-safe launching pads, and a reliable automated system of control and communication. The standard of training of personnel has risen greatly over these years.

What is your perception of strategic balance? Is it sufficient at present for our country's reliable security?

As we see it, the strategic balance means a rough parity of strategic arms, both in terms of numbers and combat might, between the U.S.S.R. and the United States necessary for maintaining mutual security.

An equal reduction of Soviet and American strategic arms will not upset the balance, and we stand for this, on condition, of course, that the American side does not press for advantages and military superiority for itself.

What are the chief requirements put to modern ICBMs?

High reliability and invulnerability at all stages of preparation, launch and flight as prerequisites for the performance by the missile forces of their combat task. At present our ICBMs have an adequate standard of reliability and all-round invulnerability. And this is our constant concern, with due account taken of changes in the potential of the probable enemy.

How is the invulnerability of our ICBMs maintained?

By a set of organizational and technical measures intended to ensure their high combat readiness and their protection on earth and in flight.

Will not the vulnerability of our ICBMs increase with the development of the American "star wars" programme?

Yes, it will increase if we do not take countermeasures. Although intended as an anti-missile defence system, SDI can also comprise strike

space weapons targeted on our strategic installations, including ICBMs, and capable of destroying them within minutes. In effect, this will be a new component of U.S. strategic offensive forward-based arms deployed in outer space over the Soviet Union's territory.

Our reply to the "star wars" programme can be incomparably simpler and cheaper. At his press conference in Reykjavik, Mikhail Gorbachev said: "There will be an answer to SDI. An asymmetrical one, but there will be one. Moreover, we will not have to sacrifice much."

There exist effective ways of preserving the invulnerability of our ICBMs in the event of the implementation of SDI as well.

In the opinion of Soviet scientists, for instance, an effective counter-measure is offered by such a tactic as launching ICBMs intended to "exhaust" the space-based ABM defence, through its early alerting by means of a specially devised return strike routine. These

can be combined launches of ICBMs and dummy missiles, launches of ICBMs with a wide range of trajectories, etc. All this leads to the squandering of energy resources of orbital ABM echelons, to the discharging of x-ray lasers and electromagnetic guns, and other premature losses in the firepower of the ABM system.

In addition to this, an increase in the number of ICBMs will create several additional difficulties for the enemy's detection systems and cause a drastic decline in the efficiency of the interception and targeting systems. A similar result will also be achieved by using more warheads per missile.

What reliability do nuclear warheads have without nuclear tests?

Our 30-year record of developing and testing nuclear warheads corroborates their high reliability.

There is no denying that our unilateral moratorium makes perfecting armaments rather difficult but we have to accept this for the sake of the common goal—ending the arms race and preserving peace on Earth.

The United States needs nuclear tests to create fundamentally new, more destructive munitions as well as nuclear-pumped laser weapons. And this poses a new danger to peace.

Will not the survivability of our early warning system decline if the United States starts deploying its ASAT system?

The ASAT system is intended to intercept artificial earth satellites on high orbits and does not extend to our early warning spacecraft. Besides, we have other warning systems.

What do you mean by sufficiency of strategic forces?

The sufficiency of strategic forces stems from a state's military doctrine. For our country it is determined by the equal security of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A.

The main objectives of the strategy of "direct confrontation" between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., announced by the head of the Pentagon in June 1981, are as follows: to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union, and ensure the readiness of the United States to wage war to force the U.S.S.R. into immediately stopping military operations on U.S. terms.

It is also noted that, by opening "new fields of military rivalry," the United States can change the alignment of forces in its favour.

Is a crippling nuclear strike possible in present conditions of strategic parity?

The United States wants to achieve this by deploying MX ICBMs, stationing Pershing-2 medium-range missiles in Western Europe, equipping submarines with Trident-2 ballistic missiles and also by developing SDI components with their subsequent deployment in outer space. But in existing conditions of strategic parity a crippling strike is impossible. All attempts to achieve unilateral advantages can always, and will be parried by the opposite side, and not necessarily by simply building up weapon systems. The level of economic development attained by the U.S.S.R. allows for this.

Do you subscribe to the concept of offensive and defensive nuclear forces?

I subscribe to the concept, if it can be so called, of ensuring our country's security regardless of the development of the military-political situation in the world. Soviet military doctrine is of a purely defensive nature and is designed to protect the country from attack, from aggression.

As for the American concept of offensive and defensive nuclear forces, this classification, to my mind, is purely conventional and serves to justify the arms race and the pursuit of military superiority.

When questions of limiting and reducing nuclear stockpiles are being tackled the division of these arms into offensive and defensive ones does not fit in with the concept of equal security.

What, in your opinion, makes SDI illusory?

The fallacy of SDI is that it is impossible to create a failproof system of repulsing a return strike by our strategic forces. On the other hand, we have no doubts as to SDI's offensive capabilities.

Have you seen a nuclear explosion? What was your impression? What do you think about the future of mankind in the nuclear-space age?

As a World War II veteran, I saw conventional explosions on battlefields, in the towns and villages of our country, and this is sufficient for me to imagine all the horrors and losses brought by nuclear war. The aftermaths of the atomic bombings of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the Americans without any necessity whatsoever make every decent person shudder even now, more than forty years later.

If unleashed, nuclear war will affect everyone, no matter where it begins. And today, as never before, we link mankind's future with the struggle for peace.

Tension between the nuclear powers is growing and the arms race is not slowing down. Is there a way out of this situation?

There is only one way out—to sit down at the negotiating table and at the same time not to press for unilateral superiority. This is a logical and understandable path along which to advance to the solution of the crucial problems on which the very survival of mankind depends. The package of Soviet proposals submitted in Reykjavik makes this a realistic proposition.

What, in your view, is the role of the troops under your command in averting nuclear war?

The Strategic Missile Forces are called the nuclear-missile shield of our Motherland. Their might, their high degree of readiness to repulse at any moment an aggressor's attack are an important factor in restraining the militaristic ambitions of imperialism and averting nuclear war.

ARMED FORCES

SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW CONTENTS FOR JAN-DEC 1986, NOS 1-12

Moscow SOVIET MILITARY REVIEW in English No 12, Dec 86 pp 62-64

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ARMED FORCES

LETTERS TO KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITOR, RESPONSES, SEP--OCT 1986

Criticism of Construction Brings Results

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Sep 86 p 2

[Article: "Either Loafing or All-Out Effort..."]

[Text] The letter of Soviet Army worker V. Kravtsov was published under this heading ["Either Loafing or All-Out Effort"] on 17 July 1986. It discussed disorders in the military construction organization which were reflected in the microclimate in the collective.

The newspaper's critical article was answered by the first deputy chief of the political directorate of the North Caucasus Military District, Major General M. Kovalevskiy. In the reply, it is reported that the worker's letter was discussed with the staff of the political directorate, supervisory personnel, and with personnel of the political department and combined trade union committee of the district's construction directorate as well as at meetings of labor collectives.

The chief of the political department of the construction directorate, Colonel V. Gubskiy, was heard in the district's political directorate while the chief of the construction directorate, Colonel B. Siukhin, and the chief of the general contracting UNR [work supervisor's section], Colonel B. Rassokha, were heard in the district People's Control Committee. The low quality of construction, poor organization of labor, and inattention to the needs and requirements of the workers and employees of the Soviet Army were strictly pointed out to all three.

As a result of measures which were adopted, the organization of production was improved, the productivity of labor was increased, and idling due to the absence of materials and a work front and disruption of contractual obligations was eliminated.

For shortcomings in the organization of production activity severe reprimands were received by the chief of department of the district's construction directorate, Colonel A. Krupenikov, the chief of the work supervisor's section, Lieutenant Colonel Ye. Nagayev, and the chief of the technical production department of the work supervisor's section, Lieutenant Colonel V. Turkin. The chief of the sector for technical production acquisition, Captain A. Vechkanov, was warned about incomplete official compliance.

Lax Military Security Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Sep 86 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Urazhtsev, Moscow Military District: "Forgetting Vigilance"]

[Text] The incident which I want to relate occurred recently. Several soldiers photographed each other enthusiastically against the background of a military object. It was necessary to interfere. As was learned, Private First Class I. Darmogray and Privates I. Cherenkov, A. Lisin, A. Makarov, and V. Shapovalov were sufficiently well informed about the necessity to observe strictly military secrets. This was often told to them by commanders and political officers and discussed at Komsomol meetings. So, the men were fully aware of what they were doing for the sake of effective photos.

"Honestly, you see, no one else except us will see these photographs!" Private A. Lisin made excuses for all.

Well, the desire to preserve the good memory of service in the army and of the comrades with whom they shared all joys and adversities in a brotherly way is natural. But leaf through the personal photo albums of some of the men--and you marvel. What is the source of such carelessness? One day, I saw a photo in which the latest supersonic airplane was in the frame. In another photograph a soldier held in his hands an instrument, data on which are entered only in a secret notebook. Evidently, people who are taking photos of this type are not thinking seriously of the consequences to which this may lead.

In the units and subunits great popularity is enjoyed by photo gazettes which broadly reflect the life and combat training of the subunits, and photo assemblies and photo mosaics which help the motherland's defenders to master combat specialties to perfection are widespread. An important place is also occupied by photographs in the setting up of Lenin rooms, museums, and rooms of combat glory. They propagandize traditions and competition leaders. But photos differ. Even a very good photograph from the viewpoint of its basic purpose may cause unjustifiable harm if vigilance is forgotten.

I once looked at the pudgy album of Sergeant S. Fomin. One photograph caused interest. A kind of simple photo, but you look carefully--and near the horizon the fine laces of radar antennas show through, the numbers of the combat airplanes were clearly printed, and the owner of the album himself stands in the foreground with a complacent smile. Turning over several pages, I saw the same Fomin printed near a diagram with an official security classification. Unfortunately, I also had the occasion to see such photographs among several officers. But you see, by their official duties they should wage a relentless struggle against carelessness.

I want to be understood correctly. Of course, no one forbids servicemen who are saying goodbye to their units to take away not only the good memory of combat friends and commanders but also their pictures, faces, and smiles which are printed on the photographs. However, one should not remain indifferent when, because of a lack of responsibility, someone displays elementary thoughtlessness.

Abusive Officers Punished

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Oct 86 p 2

[Article: "And What Is Behind the Written Reply?"]

[Text] This ["And What Is Behind the Written Reply?"] was the title of a report by Colonel G. Ivanov which was published on 11 July. Its basis was a letter from the newspaper's reader who told of abuses of his official position by the former officer of the Fergana city military commissariat, Lieutenant Colonel P. Zamryga. In analyzing why responsible officials of the military commissariat of the Uzbek SSR got off with a written reply to the editor's request to check the alarming signal, the correspondent came to the conclusion: it is a matter of the fallacious work style of some of the leaders who have stepped forth on the path of various types of violations and abuses. In particular, this also helped P. Zamryga to remain unpunished for a long time.

As reported to the editors by Major General B. Tarasov, the instances of coarse violations of the requirements of guidance documents and abuses of official position by the military commissar of the Uzbek SSR, Colonel U. Muminov, and several officials of the republic's military commissariats which were cited in the report were confirmed. In accordance with the results of a check, the commander of the Turkestan Military District issued an order.

For personal abuses, violation of the requirements of guidance documents, and red tape in work Colonel U. Muminov was warned of incomplete official conformance and made answerable to the party. The question of his relief from the post which he occupies is being examined. The chief of the political department of the Uzbek SSR military commissariat, Colonel A. Rubeko, received a strict reprimand for passivity and unscrupulousness in the evaluation of negative phenomena. He also received party punishment.

All officials who shut their eyes to Colonel (Reserve) P. Zamryga's money grubbing and illegal actions were held disciplinarily responsible. The deputy chief of the district's political directorate, Colonel V. Stryapnin, was punished for unsatisfactory work with the letters and statements of the servicemen.

In the reply to the editors which was signed by the district's assistant judge advocate, A. Buzyurov, it is reported that the military prosecutor's office conducted procurator checks in the military commissariats of the Uzbek SSR, Fergana Oblast, and the city of Fergana. Upon their completion, in the Fergana oblispolkom of the Soviet of People's Deputies they were given an idea of the expropriation, from P. Zamryga, of the sector of land which he had illegally received, and in the Fergana city people's court a civil suit was announced concerning the recognition as invalid the order for an apartment issued to his relative. Information about the abuses of CPSU member P. Zamryga was sent to the Fergana party gorkom for resolution of the question of holding him responsible to the party.

Civil Defense Shortcomings Being Corrected

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 October 1986

[Article: "Civil Defense"]

[Text] In the editorial under this heading ["Civil Defense"] which was published on 15 July, several shortcomings were noted in the organization of civil defense at the roofing material plant of the city of Murom.

As was reported to the editors by the chairman of the executive committee of the city's Soviet of People's Deputies, F. Borovkov, the article was discussed at a session of the ispolkom and at a conference of the city's civil defense workers. The newspaper's critical remarks were acknowledged as correct. The city's civil defense staff conducted a number of special tactical lessons and a combined exercise. A special commission conducted a check of the state of civil defense at 15 enterprises, in the course of which practical assistance was rendered in the organization of the instruction of workers and employees and the updating of graphic agitation. Measures for the elimination of shortcomings were planned at a conference of civil defense chiefs of staff of national economic facilities of Murom. Their accomplishment has been taken under strict control. Ways for a radical improvement in propagandizing civil defense questions among the population were discussed at a conference of activists of the "Znaniye" [Knowledge] Society, propagandists, personnel of motion picture theaters, and editors of large-circulation newspapers.

Construction Abuses Investigation Concluded

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 86 p 2

[Article: "Screen of Silence"]

[Text] A report by Lieutenant Colonel (Justice) I. Vashkevich which was published under this heading ["Screen of Silence"] on 24 August discussed the red tape in making answerable the chairman of the trade union committee of the construction organization, T. Vnukovoy, who committed serious abuses.

The acting chief of the political organ, Lieutenant Colonel V. Aleshkevich, reported to the editors that for failure to adopt measures to stop Vnukovoy's abuses and for violation of the procedure for examining statements and complaints of the workers the chief of the construction organization, Colonel G. Mogoras, and the secretary of the party committee, K. Klimenkov, were made answerable to the party. The unscrupulousness which was displayed was strictly pointed out to the chairman of the trade union organ, I. Burdelev. The head accountant, A. Podlesnov, and other auditors, were made answerable to the trade union.

As reported by the Deputy Chief Judge Advocate, Major General (Justice) V. Parfenov, the investigation of the Vnukovoy case is completed and the materials have been turned over to the court. The results of the prosecutor checks and the investigation in this matter were discussed at a working conference in the judge advocate's office of the garrison and omissions which were disclosed were strictly pointed out. An idea of the causes and conditions which contributed to Vnukovoy's abuses was forwarded to the chief of the construction directorate.

Medical Support of Physical Training Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Oct 86 p 2

[Article: "Hung Poised in Mid Air"]

[Text] This ["Hung Poised in Mid Air"] was the title of the report published in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on 3 August. Its author, Colonel of Medical Service Ye. Poruchikov, as reported to the editors by the chairman of the Sports Committee of the Soviet Ministry of Defense, Colonel V. Marushchak, correctly poses the question of problems in improving physician monitoring of physical training and sport in the Soviet Armed Forces. In particular, he notes that the level of training of individual physicians locally in questions of monitoring the physical condition of the men is insufficient in a number of cases. Graduates of the Military Medicine Academy imeni S. M. Kirov have poor knowledge in this question.

Checks of physical training conducted by commissions of the Soviet Ministry of Defense's Sports Committee established numerous facts which show that medical specialists of the regimental and division echelons only record the list of diseases for the conversion of servicemen into a group of therapeutic physical culture (LFK) and do not conduct prophylactic measures.

Attention is merited by the proposal to organize in a new manner the monitoring of medical support of physical training and sport in the medical services of districts (fleets, group of forces).

Air Marshal's Biography Reviewed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Oct 86 p 2

[Review by Lt Col S. Levitskiy of book "Nebo ego mechtty" [The Sky of his Dream] by Yu. Idashkin, Izdatelstvo politicheskoy literatury, 1986, 124 pages, price 20 kopecks]

[Text] The personality of Chief Marshal of Aviation A. Ye. Golovanov is truly legendary. When only 14 years of age, tall and strong, he joined the Red Army as a volunteer. After the Civil War the former fighter of regimental reconnaissance continued to fight in the ChON (special purpose units) against the unbeaten "counters." After this a cavalryman and motor racer, he was a worker of the VChK-OGPU [All-Russian Extraordinary Commission for Combating Counterrevolution and Sabotage--United State Political Directorate], later the People's Commissariat for Heavy Industry, and he studied flying. In 1933, he began to fly and subsequently already he was appointed commander of the flying detachment of the Moscow Directorate of the GVF [Civil Air Fleet]. He mastered the air routes of Central Asia and Siberia. At Khalkhin-Gol and especially in battles with the White Finns the crew under the command of A. Golovanov which was called up to the army demonstrated examples of flying skill, accomplishing missions under virtually any weather conditions.

A. Golovanov began the Great Patriotic War as a lieutenant colonel (he was awarded this rank immediately upon appointment to the Air Force) and he

ended it in the rank of chief marshal of aviation and the wearer of nine orders. The commander of ADD (long-range aviation) which bombed military objectives in Berlin in 1941 and "worked" in the interests of all fronts, after the war he did much to strengthen the combat readiness of Soviet aviation.

The remarkable events from the life of the prominent Soviet military leader are also recounted in the book by the writer Yu. Idashkin, "Nebo ego mechty" [The Sky of his Dream] from the series "Heroes of the Soviet Union" which the Izdatelstvo politicheskoy literatury [Political Literature Publishing House] continues to publish. The author, of course, does not in fact write the biography of Aleksandr Yevgenyevitch Golovanov. The content of his book is like the bright strokes of a portrait of the famous military leader. Now, when our party has set its course for the acceleration and reorganization of work, the work style of the commander of the ADD is especially noteworthy for its initiative and nonstandard nature of thought and action. It would appear that Aeroflot pilot A. Golovanov had no concern more important than the combat qualities of military aviation. Nevertheless, he wrote a letter to J. V. Stalin with the recommendation to create air units which could operate in any weather conditions. He personally proposed training personnel for "blind" flights with the use of radio navigation. This rare document, the letter from A. Golovanov to J. V. Stalin, is presented in the book. Captivatingly described at times are dramatic events connected with the combat vitality, uncompromising nature, and persistence of A. Golovanov, a person of lofty style and a steadfast, concerned commander.

The writer met with his hero many times and that is why A. Golovanov himself seems to talk with the reader from the book's pages, recalls, and reflects. A wealth of historical material is collected in a comparatively small book. The narration concerns other prominent military leaders and regular pilots, navigators, and technicians.

Unfortunately, the story of the postwar activity of the chief marshal of aviation turned out to be less expressive. Here already there were fewer acutely topical episodes although even at that time Chief Marshal of Aviation A. Golovanov remained the same energetic leader with initiative ready to defend his righteousness at any level.

On the whole, the book, as they say, can be read at one breath. It is intended for a wide readers' audience.

Military Commissariat's Attitude Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Oct 86 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen (Ret) N. Kovalenko, Alma-Ata: "Indifference: This Is what Hinders Associates of the Alatauskiy Rayon Military Commissariat of Alma Ata in Work with People"]

[Text] Dear editors! On 24 September 1984 the Alatauskiy Rayon military commissariat of the city of Alma-Ata invited me, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, to draw up documents in connection with a forthcoming award. And at the beginning of May 1985 the veterans, including me, were informed of the

day for awarding the orders. However, my name was not included in the list of those being decorated. I went to the military commissariat several times after this. There they conscientiously checked my documents and "awarded" only promises: Don't worry, the time will come--you'll receive the order....

Major (Retired) I. Nekrytykh

On the editors' request, I met in the Alatau military commissariat with the rayon military commissar, Lieutenant Colonel K. Bazarbayev, and the chief of the section, Major Z. Turdiyev. Yes, here they remember the talks with Ivan Grigoryevich Nekrytykh. They left an unfavorable impression with the officers of the military commissariat and its associates spoke with irritation of the veteran's persistence. Others are waiting patiently, they say, and he came three times. And what is more, he spoke in excited tones.

But how can one not be exasperated by the callousness, negligence, and indifference which are evident here, as they say, to the naked eye in the work style of some officials.

By the way, we will begin in the regular manner. Through the fault of the associates of the military commissariats, the documents of Major (Retired) Nekrytykh were incorrectly drawn up. Instead of the Order of the Patriotic War 1st class with which the veteran should have been decorated, he was recommended for the Order of the Patriotic War 2d class. In the military commissariat they assured us that they would correct the error. But many months more were required for this.

Finally, in December 1985 the appropriate document arrived at the military commissariat in which it says that Nekrytykh has been awarded the Order of the Patriotic War 1st class. It would appear that it is the very time to congratulate the veteran, award him the such a long-awaited decoration, and at the same time apologize to the veteran for the delay. But not one of the responsible officers even thought of informing the recipient of the order or apologizing. I had to do it on the day when, on the complaint of Comrade Nekrytykh, I learned that the decoration had been approved. I phoned the veteran and he transmitted a new request to me: "Find out, please, if Molokova has been decorated."

It is a matter of a minute--I look at the list of recipients. It turns out that former nurse V. Molokova had been awarded the Order of the Patriotic War 2d class even a year ago. But up to now she has not received the decoration....

I express my bewilderment to Major Turdiyev: I say, why does this occur? And he answers: "We award whoever comes." With this, the veterans related later, Turdiyev reminds them: [speaking in the familiar] "You received the order, don't interfere with our work." It is precisely using the familiar tense that this "person who is up to his neck in work," as Major Turdiyev likes to speak about himself, talks to visitors who are much older than he. Will one become joyous from such an award, after such a reception will respect toward the worker of the military commissariat remain?

And here is what a veteran of the Great Patriotic War, S. Parkhomenko, related:

"A neighbor drops in to see me. Go to the military commissariat, he says, they are issuing orders. I arrive. And they say to me from the threshold: 'You found the time when to appear--at the end of the workday.' But just when should I come? I don't sit with nothing to do--I work in production. I look, they proffer a small box to me. I take it, and my hands tremble. For the award is very dear--the Order of the Patriotic War, 1st class!..."

The decorations which the veterans receive are actually dear to each one. And it is a great pity that in the Altauskiy Rayon military commissariat they have not learned that the attitude should be respectful, on the part of those to whom the state entrusts the awarding of orders, to those people who have merited them. Red tape and indifference extinguish joy and deprive the day for the awarding of the decorations of the colors of a holiday. And that is why the veterans say: in the Alatau military commissariat they do not award decorations--they issue them. And the question is posed again: can it really be, let us say, that in the political department of the oblast military commissariat they do not know what procedures exist here?

In a talk with me the military commissar, Lieutenant Colonel Bazarbayev, stated that the case concerning Comrades Nekrytykh, Molokova, and several others is, he said, isolated misunderstandings. And I was ready to believe him. But here I talk to the father of two officers, Yuriy Viktorovich Fisenko. Since completing military school, his sons are serving far from their home. Everything would have been all right--but a misfortune arose. Yuriy Viktorovich became a first-group invalid. And here his wife also was taken ill--she was also granted a disability. It is difficult for elderly sick people. Yuriy Viktorovich decided to petition for the transfer of the younger son, Lieutenant K. Fisenko, from the Carpathian Military District to the Central Asian Military District. Where should the trouble begin? He decided to appeal to the military commissariat of his rayon--the Altauskiy Rayon. The military commissar listened to Comrade Fisenko and replied that he had applied to the wrong place. I, he said, am not engaged with these questions. Fisenko began to telephone the republic military commissariat (he could no longer walk). There they told him which documents he should collect. And first, apply...to the Altauskiy Rayon military commissariat, to the military commissar. The invalid again applied for assistance, but by now to Major Turdiyev. And again he waited in vain for it.

After long procrastinations (you cannot use another word) Fisenko finally, this March, received a report: all necessary documents had been sent from the rayon military commissariat to their destination in the Carpathian Military District. A month passed, another, a third--the documents still in no way find the addressee. Father and son phone each other and become upset but, all the same, there is no result. And really, there could not be. When I found a copy of the accompanying paper which had been filed in a dossier, it turned out that the documents had not been sent from the military commissariat to the unit where Lieutenant Fisenko serves, but to another address.

It was necessary for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to interfere for the documents concerning which Yu. Fisenko was troubled to be sent to the proper address. The question of the transfer was resolved with the aid of the newspaper.

And what happened in the military commissariat? For there is also a party organization there, too. How did it react to all this? Perhaps, having analyzed what occurred, in the military commissariat they regret that they could not help the sick people for such a long time. Not at all. They replied to me as follows: we, associates of the military commissariat did our job, what more do you want of us?

But they do not want so much from the responsible officers of the military commissariat: the conscientious accomplishment of their official duties, which also assumes attention to people.

Sloppy Construction Work Unrepaired

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct 86 p 2

[Article: "To Others' Shoulders"]

[Text] This spring, a group of workers and employees of the "Darasun" military sanatorium appealed to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA with a letter. They complained about the low quality of finishing work and construction omissions in the new apartments which they had received. The editors sent the letter to the construction directorate of the Transbaykal Military District for the adoption of measures.

On 4 June the newspaper published a reply received from there. The chief of the construction directorate, Colonel V. Skorokhodov, acknowledged that the complaints of the new settlers were correct and he reported that the guilty had been punished for the low quality of work which had been permitted and violation of construction standards, and that the omissions in the building had been eliminated.

However, a letter with a complaint from residents of the ill-fated building soon arrived again from the Transbaykal. From it, it followed that in fact not everything was as well as Colonel Skorokhodov had assured the editors and the readers. It turned out that the builders, charging the new settlers themselves with the elimination of their shortfalls, had promised to pay money for this in accordance with a labor agreement, making the necessary construction materials available. But they did not keep their word. Then the people turned to the military prosecutor's office which required the command of the military construction organization to accomplish a complete computation with the residents of the building and punish those guilty of red tape. Nevertheless, even after this nothing changed.

The editors sent this letter to the political directorate of the Transbaykal Military District, hoping that there they would look into this miserable story and would direct attention to the lovers of bureaucratic written answers from the district's construction directorate and their striving to brush aside valid criticism instead of the businesslike and efficient elimination of shortcomings and omissions in their work. Alas, up to now these hopes have not been realized.

More than three months passed, and no reply arrived from the political directorate of the district.

And recently one more letter from the "Darasun" sanitorium appeared in the editors' mail. V. Suslova writes that she had received a routine written reply to her complaint from Colonel Skorokhodov. In it, as formerly it states that "the wages for the tenants who performed the finishing work in their apartments had been paid."

It is just that those who have been waiting for the promised reimbursement of expenditures for almost half a year already do not know of this. Isn't it time for the responsible officials finally to bring words and deeds into conformance?

Ship's Special Training Delinquent

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct 86 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank V. Pasyakin, Black Sea Fleet: "They Did Not Grasp the Criticism"]

[Text] On 7 June of this year, a report, "When Control Is Relaxed" was published which discussed the unsatisfactory organization of lessons on special training on the large antisubmarine warfare [ASW] ship "Komsomolets Ukrainy" and the escort ship "Bezukoriznennyy."

Two and a half months later a reply reached the editors from the ASW ship "Komsomolets Ukrainy" which reported on measures which had been adopted. The editors did not receive a reply concerning the escort ship "Bezukoriznennyy." But the main thing is that in no way did they react to the criticism in the units of which the ships are a part or in higher fleet echelons although it is at this very level that appropriate measures should have been adopted and the editors informed. It is noteworthy that if the state of affairs began to be rectified somewhat on the "Komsomolets Ukrainy," the crew of the "Bezukoriznennyy" could not even achieve any positive changes. Our correspondent, who recently visited the ship again, was convinced of this.

It was a day for special training. But having climbed aboard the escort ship "Bezukoriznennyy," I learned that the seamen who were calmly engaged with various matters did not even suspect that they should be at lessons right now.

The "reason" for the breakdown of the lesson, how strange it is, proved to be the same as several months ago: the ship was preparing to receive the staff. A chance coincidence? One thing is clear: instead of monitoring the special training and stepping forth as champion of the undeviating execution of the daily plan which he had approved, the commander of the ship willingly uses any occasion for the cancellation of special training which is, as is known, the foundation of high combat training and military skill.

Why is it that here they believe the expenditure of precious training time for other purposes possible? Why is the daily plan often prepared only for the sake of form?

Obviously, because the commander himself underestimates the necessity for planned special training and there is no proper monitoring on the part of the unit staff. And even the newspaper's critical article did not change the situation which had developed.

We should like to believe that in the crew there are officers who are able to respect the plan and feel a real responsibility for the training of subordinates. But, let us say, the navigator, Captain-Lieutenant I. Afanasyev, in general had a vague notion of what his subordinates are doing.

Senior Seaman S. Zakharenko, for example, sat alone in the navigation room. When we dropped in at the battle station, the seaman tried to "assist" the commander, resourcefully reporting that he is independently reviewing material which has been covered.

The commander of the control department, Captain 3d Rank V. Prokopenko, was also smoking in his cabin, leaving his subordinates to their own devices.

"The personnel are engaged in adjusting the radar," the officer calmly informed us.

But when we and Prokopenko tried to find the seamen who were engaged in work, we were unsuccessful.

You must admit, the situation is more than strange. Lessons in specialty are taking place, the materiel in the subunit requires adjustment, and the department commander is resting calmly in the cabin. And this does not disturb either the commander of the ship or his political deputy, Captain 3d Rank A. Kostenich. For the sake of fairness, we should also name staff officer Captain 3d Rank A. Lukoshin who was on the ship at that time. But for what purpose is unknown; at least he was not brought here by his primary official duty--concern for the special training of the seamen of the subunits within his jurisdiction.

Captain 3d Rank Lukoshin said as follows:

"I came here on another matter."

Just what "other matter" can disturb the flag specialist who is visiting the ship during on-duty time if he sees that here the main task of the day is being ignored? Yes, really a flag specialist. On the ship at the very same time was the unit chief of staff who was recently appointed to this post after completing the naval academy.

It turns out, no, today's disruption of specialty lessons is not by chance. It became possible with the silent agreement of the staff whose absence of control and connivance engender connivance on the ship, too.

When I told Captain 2d Rank Yu. Rykov, acting department commander, of the lessons in specialty which had been disrupted on the escort ship "Bezukoriznenny," he noted:

"But you see, 10 days ago we checked the organization of special training there, disclosed many defects, and required their elimination. But, unfortunately, because we were very busy we were unable to check how the defects are being eliminated."

I do not know how the staff worked on the ship, but the conclusions drawn in the crew are obvious. And it is believed that the effectiveness of the staff's work is determined not by the amount of time spent on the ships, but by the degree of the staff's influence on the crew's affairs and by the crew's concrete results in combat and political training. The "Bezukoriznenny" need not boast of results. The ship accomplished the last missile firing with a low grade. Several gross delinquencies, a large number of which were committed by officers and warrant officers [michman], pulled the crew backward even more in socialist competition. But you see, this is what is amazing: judging by everything this failure does not especially worry anyone on the ship.

It is believed that here it is already difficult to hope for self-consciousness within the framework of the unit. Evidently, the fleet should take under control such laggards who are deaf to criticism at any levels.

From the editors: The crew of the "Bezukoriznenny" did not accomplish the training plans and obligations in the competition. It is clear that now at all fleet levels the "Bezukoriznenny" will be subjected to criticism and named among the laggards.... But will good come of this? For there were also enough words formerly but they were not reinforced by deeds: by effective assistance and constant monitoring.

Naturally, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA cannot lose sight of the units and ships which were discussed on its pages. This also pertains to the escort ship "Bezukoriznenny."

Aircraft Mechanic's Complaint Brings Results

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct p 2

[Article: "After a Long Silence"]

[Text] A short letter to the editors from Senior Lieutenant V. Okhotnikov, "Mechanics...for Show," was published on 28 May. It discussed the fact that many young aviation specialists appear at the airfield only when a commission visits the regiment for a check. But the readers of the publication waited in vain for a response concerning measures adopted because of the letter. The responsible officers maintained silence for almost four months, and in return Okhotnikov himself sent an anxious letter: for the criticism in the newspaper he was called an "intriguer" and punished. This letter was published with the commentary of our correspondent, Colonel V. Kiryazov, on 17 September.

Only to this article did the editors receive a reply from the member of the military council and chief of the political department, Air Force of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, Major General of Aviation K. Shapkin. The facts from the letters of Senior Lieutenant Okhotnikov were completely confirmed. Now all aviation mechanics have returned to their authorized posts. The deputy chief engineer of the Air Force, Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, Colonel V. Logvinov, conducted a conference with the supervisory personnel of the Air Force Engineer Service to eliminate the separation of the mechanics from their performance of their basic duties. Lieutenant Colonel N. Nargonov was heard at a session of the party bureau and the absence of a check of observance of the official schedule was strictly pointed out to him.

Such measures were also expected after publication of Senior Lieutenant Okhotnikov's first letter. Why didn't this occur? The reason, it is reported in the reply to the editors, is that in the headquarters and the political department of the group's Air Force they were relying on measures, as they say, locally. Meanwhile Colonel A. Parsin "readdressed the investigation" to those whom Senior Lieutenant Okhotnikov had criticized. These officials displayed tactlessness in relation to the author, undertook no measures, and "ignored" the newspaper article.

Colonel A. Parsin was heard in the political department of the district's Air Force. His incorrect attitude toward the newspaper article was strictly pointed out to him. Colonel Ivanov, who insulted Senior Lieutenant Okhotnikov, received a party reprimand.

The long story with the short letter showed clearly how not to regard a critical article in the press.

Private Denied Officer School Attendance

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Oct 86 p 2

[Letter to the editors: "The Dream Did Not Come True"]

[Text] Dear Editors! This year I decided to become an officer like my father. My decision was confirmed after I served in the army. I selected the Krasnodar Higher Military School imeni Army General S. M. Shtemenko.

In the Ussuriysk garrison of the Far East Military District, to which my documents had been sent, I went before a medical commission and, receiving a "good" from it, I was permitted to take the entrance examinations. Then, passing them successfully, I went before a professional selection board and a mandate commission and was enrolled in the school by a visiting acceptance commission.

When I arrived at the school, they demanded my medical documents from me. For some reason, they were not in the file. That is what they told me. And this appeared to be strange. Where could they have disappeared? Then from the school they made a supposed inquiry to the headquarters of the Far East Military District. But, not waiting for a reply or not wanting to wait for it, they sent me to the hospital to go before a medical commission again. Naturally, I was very agitated but, to my joy, the conclusion was favorable. I was adjudged suitable for training in the military educational institution. But my joy proved to be premature. At the mandate commission they told me that I am not suitable...because of health.

It is easy to understand that I could not appeal the decision of the mandate commission. Therefore, receiving an order, by the way, not signed by a responsible officer, I returned to my former place of service. But here they explained to me: the documents can be sent to another school. Unfortunately, my commanders could not do this because the documents arrived, so to say, in truncated form. They did not contain the evaluation sheet and the trade union selection card. And on one document a note had been made in pencil: "Dismissed in accordance with the medical commission and physical examination." All this seemed strange. I virtually went before three medical commissions. And there was one conclusion at all of them: suitable. I do not reproach the military doctors for bias. I went before the commissions at different places.

Why do they treat me this way? Why did no one even have a talk with me?

Private S. Kozhemyako

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CSO: 1801/86

GROUND FORCES

IVANOVSKIY INTERVIEW ON ARMY LIFE

PM141431 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[Yu. Dmitriyev and Yu. Mayorov account of conversation between Hero of the Soviet Union Army General Ye. F. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, and R.P. Barkalova, milkmaid on Voronezh Oblast's "Rodina" Kolkhoz, under the rubric "Heart-to-Heart on an Important Matter": "A Son Serves in the Army"]

[Excerpts] Milkmaid Raisa Platovna Barkalova is a soldier's mother. She is not famous for anything. But no one in the ancient Voronezh Oblast village of Pershino would say a bad word about her. She works conscientiously. It is no joke tending 30 cows in a livestock unit. A large household and private plot. Two sons. The first-born is already in the army, serving in the Red Banner Siberian Military District.

Army General Ivanovskiy cordially greeted his guest, wished her a happy New Year, and helped her to a comfortable armchair. "Ours is a serious, detailed conversation. Make yourself comfortable, Raisa Platovna," the commander in chief said cordially.

Ye. F. Ivanovskiy: Military service is no easy matter. The new recruits of the latest fall draft have already been on their first exercises and seen for themselves what it means to spend several hours in the open in bad weather. But what about a day or two? As well as long marches, attacks....

The soldier in the field, in the mountains, in the forest is not a guest. He must be able to cook dinner in a mess tin and know how to dry off by a campfire, set up a night shelter, and much else.

Service means, above all, daily military labor. The serviceman does not know the words "I cannot." He recognizes just one work--"must"! Behind this word lies the exertion of all forces. Both physical and mental forces. The young soldier has to spend a lot of time in study classrooms and on simulators. For modern military hardware is complex and varied. Only an able and well-trained person can master it. Military labor entails the greatest composure, when knowledge, reason, will, and physical strength are in a single sheaf like a tightly compressed spring.

R.P. Barkalova: Are our sons ready for all this?

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: I want to make you happy: In the main, they are ready. But this is not enough for the modern army. The elementary military and physical training of yesterday's potential draftees frequently leaves a lot to be desired. A guy arrives at his place of service, and then it turns out that he is unable to perform several chin-ups on the horizontal bar or wield a long-handled shovel, misses the target with his bullets, has a dim idea of military regulations....

It is natural, however, that gaps in elementary military training have to be made good. But this takes a lot of time. Training for military service.... In point of fact, we are all involved in this. Schoolteachers, above all military instructors, masters of vocational training, the family, and labor collectives exert their influence on the future soldier.

R.P. Barkalova: My Viktor has always respected his elders and observed cleanliness and order. He will always chop wood and sweep the yard. I think he will quickly take to army discipline. In his letters he does not complain of any difficulties with this. Incidentally, Viktor frequently writes home and asks for nothing, neither money nor candy. But perhaps I should still send him something?

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: In this connection I would like to familiarize you with a letter from Valentina Kuznetsova, another soldier's mother, which she sent to the TRUD editorial office.

"This is the first time I have written to a newspaper. And this is what has prompted me to do so. I saw my son off to the army in the spring. He is serving well and has become an artillery gunner. He regularly writes letters and appears to need nothing. I had an urge to visit him and traveled to the unit, although the distance was considerable. It was a Saturday. And this is what I saw. There were lots of people in the entrance checkpoint, like hospital visitors on their day off. All with bags and string bags crammed with all sorts of things to eat. I saw a young, well-proportioned guy in a fine uniform of camouflage color come out, and two women--his mother and grandmother--darted up to him. Both hung on the soldier. The grandmother kissed him, thrust pies at him, and bemoaned something. The soldier was embarrassed and, I think, felt awkward, for he now felt grown up and had become a citizen with full rights--a serviceman and a man. But then his grandmother arrived with her pies, with tears in her voice, as when he was a child. The guy tried to put her off: 'There is no need. I have everything. I am well fed and shod.' And I too felt awkward for myself. Does all this not distract a serviceman from service?"

What can I say about this letter? And in answer to your question generally. There is a very delicate and purely human aspect--parental love, particularly maternal love, is inextinguishable. It is sacred and noble. And no one has the right to encroach on it. Nor does anyone have the right to direct when and how many times a year a soldier son may be visited. Particularly as every unit has special premises for meetings and servicemen are granted leave to visit a city or settlement, depending on their service and behavior. Parents

are afforded the opportunity to visit a military camp, to talk with their son's commanders and fellow servicemen, and to see how he lives and is being trained in a military profession. And we welcome this.

However, let us talk about something else. Are we not sometimes overprotective of our children, forgetting that they are already soldiers and are in state service? For there are some really strange examples. Parents arrive in a Transcaucasian unit from Rostov-na-donu. They took a room in a neighboring village and lives there for some 6 weeks. They went to the garrison every day--now they would bring some hot chicken broth, now chocolate, now a piece of meat. The guy felt awkward in front of his fellow serviceman. And his mother would even take a pair of scissors out of her bag and cut the soldier's nails.

Or money remittances for large amounts. Several times a year. Why? A soldier gets his board and lodging, as it were. Incidentally, he also gets a money allowance which is quite enough to buy a lemonade, a pastry, or candy in a soldiers' tearoom or at the PX....

Something worse also happens, when some wealthy father comes to the unit and tries to use treats, liquor, or even simply ready cash to persuade the commander or his deputy to transfer his progeny to some "cushy" job and give him preferential treatment compared with his fellow servicemen. Of course, such "parents" have no success in the army milieu.

The allowance norms meet all the soldier's needs. Almost every unit has its own subsidiary plot or, as it is also called, kitchen plot. The majority of the products obtained from that plot end up on the table.

R.P. Barkalova: Man does not live by bread alone.

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: Still less a soldier. But here I will hand over to Colonel General M.D. Popkov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Ground Forces Political Directorate.

Col Gen M.D. Popkov: Ours is the most widely read army in the world. The stocks of its libraries alone now contain more than 120 million books. In addition, millions of copies of central, district, and local newspapers are received every day. More than 100 new feature movies and up to 250 documentary and popular scientific movies are sent to the troops every year. The supply of television and radio sets to the troops has increased several times over in recent years.

Much study time in the troop schedules is allocated to physical training exercises and sessions. Great attention is devoted to mass sporting work in units. Servicemen participate in competitions in military-applied and military-technical forms of sport and improve their skill in sports sections.

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: But perhaps our general answers do not quite satisfy you, Raisa Platovna. That is why I have summoned to Moscow Lieutenant Aleksey Petrukhno, commander of the platoon in which Sergeant Barkalov is serving. Over to him.

Lt A. Petrukhno: Ours is a remote taiga garrison. Age-old pines and snowy fields are all around. Servicemen do not fear Siberian frosts. When they go off on field exercises or are on guard duty, they take felt boots, heated high boots, sheepskin three-quarter length coats, and fur mittens.

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: Incidentally, about letters. There is probably no need to say what they mean to a soldier. A soldier receives letters from home and from close friends. But rarely from labor collectives. In my view, that is wrong. A serviceman who has temporarily left his own collective does not stop thinking about it and worrying about his comrades at work. So let us maintain correspondence with him. This will give him new strength to fulfill his soldierly duty. And then casual friends and acquaintances sometimes write to the army, giving "advice" and "exhortations" and bragging of their adventures.

In certain cities and settlements you see in the busiest squares and intersections boards with the portraits of young servicemen who have marched off from those streets to rally to the combat banner and have already received state awards. There are still very few such displays and photographs in our labor collectives, schools, and vocational and technical schools. A pity. In our view, boards of honor and corners of glory should be set up in schools, enterprises, establishments, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses, where photographs of the best servicemen would appear alongside portraits of foremost workers.

R.P. Barkalova: I have seen the splendid movie "Belorussian Station" several times. And it always tugs at my heart when I see soldiers returning home at the movies--in dust-covered garrison caps and with haversacks over their shoulders. I do not know how I will greet by Viktor....

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: This incident happened at Moscow's "Salyut" plant. Several years ago Nikolay Prokhorov, a fitter and a modest, inconspicuous guy, came to that enterprise from the army. A real ace at work. He had been given the highest award--The Order of Lenin. When he came to his old shop with that award after its presentation, his comrades caught sight of two other orders--of the Red Star. It turned out that he had received them for courage and heroism displayed while fulfilling his international duty in Afghanistan. But not everyone in the collective knew about that....

Yest, we usually give guys a festive, ceremonial sendoff to the army. New recruits are presented with collective gifts and letters of exhortation, and veterans shake them by the hand. It is a great festival for the family, the labor collective, and--I will not be afraid to say--the whole country. But discharged servicemen are frequently greeted in a lackluster, commonplace manner.

I believe amendments must be made here. A soldier discharged into the reserve is in no hurry to take off at the station or the airport his overcoat and his full-dress blouse with insignia of military valor won in hard everyday military life. So let us greet him cordially, as is befitting, at the plant, sovkhos, or kolkhoz and in his own street. And let the serviceman report back on his service....

And if a guy has made a mess of things and served indifferently, also tell the comrades at work about everything honestly and make an assessment of his behavior. All this will serve as a stern lesson not only for him but also for others who are preparing to join the army. [Ivanovskiy ends]

A general, like any soldier, has little free time. Commander in Chief Ye.F. Ivanovskiy's conversation with soldier's mother Raisa Platovna Barkalova was drawing to an end. On behalf of the soldiers' mothers in her village she presented the commander in chief with a splendid loaf of bread.

Ye.F. Ivanovskiy: I am touched by this gift to the depths of my soul. Thank you, soldier's mother. Bread is peace and life. Let us remember: It will soon be the anniversary of M.S. Gorbachev's historic statement, in which our country submitted for judgment by the peoples and examination by governments a program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere by the year 2000, for mankind's deliverance from the threat of self-annihilation, and for reliable security for the present and future generations. All of us--both soldiers and working people--are struggling ardently to realize these ideas.

I will send this marvelous loaf to the military unit where your son is serving. May a mother's loaf remind the soldiers of the warmth of their own home, of the dearest person in the world.

R.P. Barkalova: And of our maternal instruction: May the son serve well. May he always remember that he is the defender of peace, which is dearest of all to us.

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CSO: 1801/120

FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

WESTERN AIRBORNE EW PLATFORMS SURVEYED

Moscow TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE in Russian No 11, Nov 86 pp 38-39

[Article by Col V. Mikhaylov and A. Andreyev, candidate of technical sciences; materials and illustrations from the AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY magazine and THE INTERNATIONAL COUNTERMEASURES HANDBOOK used in the article: "Electronic Countermeasures Aircraft Equipment"]

[Text] As foreign experts note, modern air defense systems ensuring a high effectiveness of detecting and intercepting airborne targets are vulnerable to a variety of organized jamming. Use of airborne electronic countermeasures (ECM) aircraft reduces the probability of detection and destruction of airborne targets, which enables aircraft to carry out combat missions in the zone of fire of active air defense weapons. Therefore, much attention abroad is being given to the development of airborne ECM systems. Virtually all combat aircraft and helicopters are being equipped with them.

Specialized aircraft and helicopters are also being developed for jamming. It is planned to use ECM aircraft for loitering in zones along the line of armed contact of troops and also when flying in combat formations of strike groups. The basic tactical and technical characteristics of ECM aircraft are given in the table.

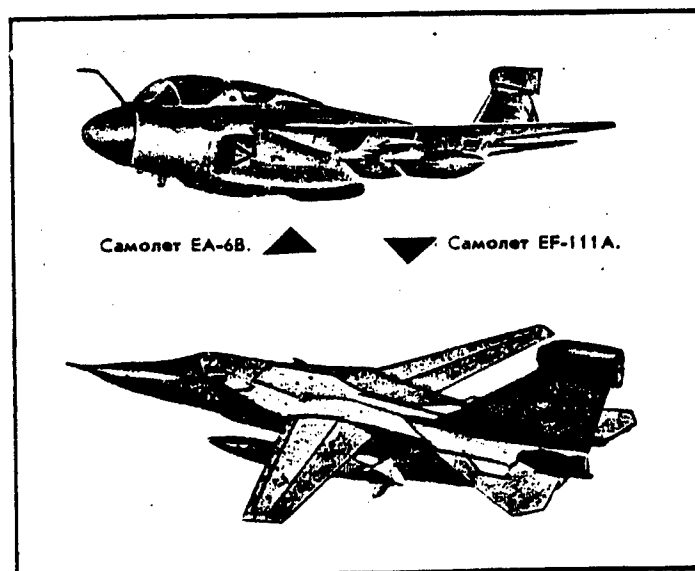
Characteristics	A i r c r a f t T y p e					
	EF-111A	EA-6B	EC-130H	HFB-320	C.222	PD-808CE
Operating radius, km	2,300	1,300	3,500	1,200	1,000	800
Maximum speed, km/hr	2,350	1,055	640	875	570	800
Waveband of ELINT and SIGINT equipment, cm	2-1000	3-500	30-1500	2-30	2-30	3-30
Waveband of active jammer, cm	2-60	3-60	30-1500	2-30	2-4	3-30
Power of jammer, W	110-470	110-470				
	1,000-2,000	1,000-2,000	1000	1000	200	

Electronic countermeasures equipment is broken down into reconnaissance equipment (information subsystem) and jammers. The former may include ELINT (electronic intelligence) equipment, infrared missile launch warning

receivers, laser warning receivers, rear-hemisphere missile warning radar, and others.

Active jamming stations comprise the basis of jammers (actuators of the subsystem). Additionally, infrared (IR) countermeasures sets, passive jammers, IR-decoy dispensers, expendable jammers, and also decoy missiles. Both subsystems are combined into a single unit which is computer controlled.

As a rule, high demands are not imposed on the flight characteristics of the aircraft intended as jamming platforms in the zones. The United States uses the EA-6B aircraft, built based on the A6 two-seater ground attack carrier aircraft, for this purpose. Its crew consists of a pilot and three ECM operators.



The EA-6B jamming platform is intended for covering strikes by fleet aircraft by jamming ground and shipboard acquisition and tracking radars and radio communications and also for protecting surface ships by jamming aircraft radars and antiship missile radar guidance systems.

The AN/ALR-67 radar warning receiver, mounted in the tail fin fairing, detects enemy radar, DF's them, and determines the basic signal parameters. It operates in the 0.5-16 GHz range. Converted to digital form, the parameters of the detected signals are fed into the ECM computer to identify the radar type and to form jammer control commands.

The specially developed AN/ALQ-99 tactical ECM system is used as a jammer. One of the modifications of the ECM system for the EA-3B--the AN/ALQ-99D--operated in the 64-10,500 MHz range, broken down into eight sub-bands. Its transmitters are located in five external pods (each housing two) and are able to develop up to 1,000 W/MHz of power. The receivers for tracking the detected signals subject to suppression are also installed here. The jamming signals are formed according to the measured parameters of the radar signals to be jammed and are radiated from antennas with a 30-degree directional pattern.

The onboard ECM computer processes the signals received, identifies the radar types, identifies their threat, selects the operating mode and output power of the transmitters, and also orients the radiating antennas in the required directions. Selection of the optimum jamming mode is based on a comparison of real-time SIGINT (signal intelligence) data with the radar parameters contained in the memory.

As has been reported in foreign press, the EA-6B's ECM equipment is continually being improved and supplemented with new devices. In the opinion of the U.S. Navy, it will remain in the inventory until the year 2000.

In addition to this aircraft, in 1982 the U.S. Air Force began receiving the EC-130H aircraft. The Compass Call ECM system installed on it is designed to suppress enemy radio communications (telephone and data transmission), radio navigation, and air defense warning. The crew of the aircraft consists of 16 people, including 8 operators: an ECM officer, 3 reconnaissance and jamming operators, 3 linguists, and a maintenance specialist.

The HFB-320 (FRG) jamming platform and the C.222 and PD-808CE ECM aircraft, built in Italy, are also used for this same purpose.

Remotely piloted vehicles (RPV's) are also used in other countries for jamming. Press reports that the American AQM-34V RPV dispenses chaff for creating passive jamming and also accomplishes barrage radar jamming when escorting aircraft strike groups. The BGM-34C multipurpose RPV having a flight range of 1,300 km entered the U.S. inventory as a replacement for the AQM-34V in 1979. In the ECM-variant, a jammer operating in the frequency bands of 250, 500-1,000, and 2,000-3,000 MHz is housed in the removable nose compartment. Pods with radar-confusion reflectors can be hung on underwing pylons. The vehicle is launched from a DC-130H aircraft platform or from the ground.

ECM aircraft built on the basis of aircraft having high flight performance characteristics are used for jamming from combat formations of strike groups. The American EF-111A jammer platform, developed on the basis of the F-111A tactical fighter, is considered the best aircraft of this class abroad. Its ECM system includes a radar warning receiver, a tactical ECM system, and a control device.

The AN/ALR-62 radar warning receiver operates in the 30-15,000 MHz range and determines the coordinates of the radar, its type, operating mode, and tactical classification.

The AN/ALQ-99E tactical ECM system operates in the range 2-470 cm, which is covered by 10 jammers having 1-2 kW of power. The transmitters are located in the lower part of the fuselage, under the fairing (4.9 meters long), and in the weapons bay. The 360-degree azimuth controllable antennas with a 30-degree directional pattern provide directional spot jamming. Omnidirectional jamming can also be done if necessary.

The AN/AYA-6 digital computer based control device provides automated control of the ECM system and monitors the reaction of the radars being suppressed to

the selected jamming method. Control is accomplished by one operator using a panoramic display which depicts the ELINT data and their bearing.

As reported in foreign press, work is continuing to improve further the characteristics of the ECM aircraft. In particular, new higher-power transmitters and a phased-array antenna system are being developed for the AN/ALQ-99E system. Special attention is being given to improving control; there are plans to use faster digital computers and improve software.

Onboard self-protection ECM equipment are also being developed abroad. The U.S. F-15, F-16, and F/A-18 and the French Mirage-2000 aircraft are equipped with the most modern of them.

In addition to ECM equipment located inside the fuselage, podded systems are being developed in the United States, in particular, the AN/ALQ-131. Two of these pods can be hung simultaneously on A-7, A-10, F-4, F-15, F-16, and F-111 aircraft. The set jams surveillance and fire-control radars and missile guidance systems in the SHF and UHF bands and transmits simultaneously in the forward and rear hemispheres of the aircraft.

The USAF B-1B strategic bomber is equipped with the AN/ALQ-161 self-protection ECM system. The system generates jamming in the 0.75-18 GHz range. The receiving and transmitting antennas in the upper portion of the frequency band are phased-array antennas. The system is controlled by several digital computers. The radiating power can be changed to the required jamming-to-signal ratio of the radar being jammed (taking into account the radar cross-section of the aircraft being protected and the measured parameters of the enemy radar). The system is functionally linked to other onboard equipment by using a multiplex data sharing system. It weighs 2,360 kg; its power consumption is 120 kW at the full jamming mode. The system also includes a chaff and IR-decoy dispenser.

The new INEWS multifunctional ECM system has been undergoing development in the United States since 1984 as self-protection for the new ATF tactical fighters being developed. Experts estimate that it will be able to protect the aircraft against radar, infrared, laser, and television guidance systems. But, as foreign experts note, the complexity is that when developing the system it is necessary to ensure it is effectively integrated with virtually all of the aircraft's onboard electronic subsystems--with the onboard radar, identification system, communications and navigation systems, ITIDS tactical information distribution system, onboard weapon systems, and others.

Army helicopters are also being equipped with ECM systems. They are mainly intended for protection against attacks by enemy field air defense weapons and helicopters. For example, the ECM system of the U.S. Army AH-1S and AH-64A attack helicopters includes a radar warning receiver, a laser-warning device, a radio jammer, an IR-jammer, and a chaff dispenser.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

NATO SELF-PROPELLED ARTILLERY DEVELOPMENTS NOTED

Moscow TEKHNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE in Russian No 11, Nov 86 pp 6-7

[Article by Col (Res) L. Kholokholenko; from foreign press materials: "Self-Propelled Artillery"]

[Text] The NATO countries, particularly the United States, are devoting much attention to self-propelled artillery, the percentage of which is quite high in tube artillery. It is developing along two directions: development of new models and modernizing existing ones. The latter is the basic direction today for the American Army, since this route is considered the most economical and makes it possible in a shorter time to increase the might of self-propelled artillery.

In the opinion of foreign experts, modern self-propelled artillery must possess such qualities as mobility, armored protection, a high rate of fire, a great firing range and accuracy, rapid target detection, and the use of various types of ammunition.

As Western press notes, considerable results have been achieved in increasing the combat characteristics of self-propelled artillery by using powerful explosives in ammunition, new materials for barrels, and also by lengthening the barrels from 23-25 to 39 calibers. Because of this, the firing range has increased to 22-24 km, and up to 30 km when using ammunition with a rocket engine (rocket-assisted projectiles).

American programs for developing artillery ammunition call for further increasing the firing range of rocket-assisted projectiles to 40 km. However, as foreign press maintains, this is not the limit. It is believed that an even greater range can be provided by using projectiles with a pulsejet engine. Within the framework of one program, American specialists are already developing a 203.2mm projectile with a pulsejet engine, having a rated firing range of 70 km.

Ammunition development programs envision increasing the effectiveness and expanding their nomenclature. The first step in this direction was the development of sub-munitions equipped with antitank mines and hollow charges; a second step was the laser-guided 155mm Copperhead M712. These munitions have turned self-propelled artillery, as is asserted abroad, into an effective long-range antitank weapon.

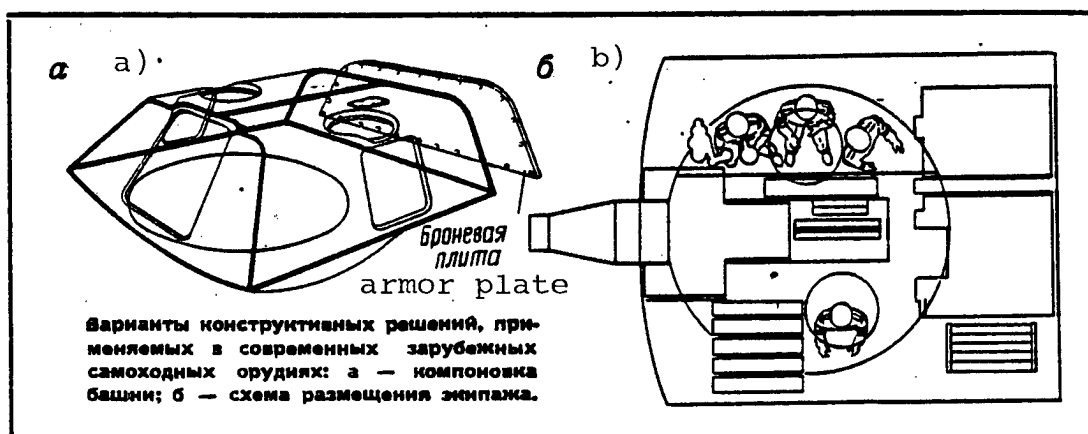


Figure 1. Design variations used in modern foreign self-propelled guns: a--turret configuration; b--crew accommodations.

For a long time the parabolic trajectory of conventional artillery shells was the main obstacle in using field artillery as an antitank weapon, the trajectory of which must be extremely flat. Now the parabolic trajectory is the main specific feature of the new-generation antitank weapons which hit tanks from above. This has become possible due to the use of radar-(millimeter wave), laser-, and IR-homing heads for terminal guidance of the projectiles, and also warheads with pre-shaped fragments.

There are several programs in existence today for developing such munitions. The most significant one is the SADARM Program, under which a 203.2mm shell is being developed containing terminally-guided sub-munitions (three or more). There are also plans for developing a 155mm SADARM projectile. As foreign press notes, their main advantage over the Copperhead is the passive homing system which does not require target designation, target illumination, and so forth.

A similar program, AIFS (Advanced Indirect Fire System), envisions development of 203.2mm and 155mm shells for hitting targets at maximum ranges. Another program (ERGP) is aimed at developing an enhanced-range 203mm shell with a guidance system. This munition is intended to combat enemy radar.

As for nuclear munitions, foreign experts believe that miniaturization of the nuclear charge (critical mass of 4.7 kg for plutonium-239 and not over 80 grams for americium isotope) makes it possible to use it in 203.2mm and 155mm munitions. The M110 203.2mm self-propelled howitzer and all its modifications are the most suitable for firing these munitions.

The ability to change positions quickly (tactical mobility) is considered an absolute requirement of self-propelled artillery today to protect against enemy counterbattery fire. Therefore, as a result of continuous improvements, the running gear of the latest models of self-propelled guns is comparable to the latest tanks. For example, whereas the power-to-weight ratio of the

M109A2 self-propelled howitzer is 12.5 kW/t (17 hp/t), that of the AMX-155 GCT is 13.3 kW/t (18 hp/t), and the SP-70 howitzer 16.8 kW/t (23.3 hp/t).

Foreign experts also include in the concept of tactical mobility the ability to maneuver on any terrain under enemy fire. Hence, the need for armored protection. Self-propelled guns intended for use at the regiment-battalion level are fully protected with armor, although not too thick. This also provides a certain amount of protection from weapons of mass destruction.

Increasing the rate of fire of self-propelled guns is closely linked to the tactical requirement of deploying them over ever-increasing vast areas. In addition, in the opinion of foreign experts, the need to increase the rate of fire is the result of the fact that defensive artillery fire is the most effective in the first 10-20 seconds, before the enemy has time to take cover. These ideas are at the basis of developing semi-automatic or fully automatic loading systems, providing a rate of fire up to 8 rounds per minute in the continuous-fire mode and up to 15 rounds per minute when firing in short bursts.

The automatic loading system was first used on the Swedish K-155 self-propelled gun. It is capable of firing in bursts at a rate of 15 rounds per minute. Quite complex loading systems were developed for the French AMX-155 GCT self-propelled gun having a rate of fire of 6 rounds in the first 45 seconds. The Japanese Type-75 self-propelled howitzer is equipped with a relatively simple and effective loading system with two rotating drum magazines (rate of fire of 18 rounds in 3 minutes). The rate of fire of the SP-70 self-propelled gun is 3 rounds in 10 seconds.

There are a large number of variants of self-propelled guns: fully or partially armored and unarmored; with a stationary gun or with it mounted in a traversing turret; on specially developed or modified wheeled and tracked chassis; and so forth.

Designers most often strive to use tank chassis for the self-propelled guns with a minimum of redesigning. In this case, the engine is almost always mounted in the rear and the turret is forward or in the center, like in a tank. Such a configuration is typical of the French AMX-155 GCT self-propelled gun, the Italian Palmara, the Swiss PZK-68, the Israeli M-68, and the newest British Vickers GBT-155 gun. With such a construction, designing the self-propelled gun virtually boils down to developing a turret which can be installed on various chassis. The SP-70 self-propelled gun has a somewhat different design. A special chassis was developed for it, although it is similar to the Leopard tank.

In most cases, tank chassis are used. All modern self-propelled guns are armed with long-barrel 155mm guns or howitzers. The length of the barrels is not less than 39 calibers. The barrels are also equipped with highly effective (up to 30 percent) muzzle brakes. Foreign experts do not foresee a further increase in barrel length, since excessively long barrels (over 50 calibers) are not advisable with the development of rocket-assisted projectiles and more powerful propellant charges.

Self-propelled guns may have no armor protections at all, for example, the M107 175mm gun and the M110 203.2mm howitzer. Not using armor makes the gun lighter and reduces its dimensions, thereby increasing its tactical mobility. These guns are intended for use in divisional corps heavy artillery and have a small horizontal arc of fire. They are extremely simple in design: an open gun is mounted in the rear portion of a tracked chassis.

Self-propelled guns and howitzers intended for coordination with artillery subunits of armored and motorized subunits are completely the opposite. These self-propelled pieces are closer to tanks in design. It is mandatory that these guns have complete armor and a 360-degree traversing turret, although some American experts are again showing an interest in the non-traversing turret. The turret, as a rule, is located in the rear of the chassis; the engine in front. This makes it possible to increase the size of the fighting compartment.

Much attention is being given to fully automating all processes of preparing initial data for firing and control of artillery fire. Therefore, the self-propelled artillery fire-control systems are continuously being improved. Above all, the instrumentation is being improved. For example, the new self-propelled guns have electro-optical and electronic sights. In addition, in connection with equipping divisions, groups, and modern artillery batteries with automated fire-control systems, digital displays are being installed on self-propelled guns and howitzers to display firing data being transmitted from the command post.

In the search of ways for further increasing the firing effectiveness, it is proposed to install computers on each self-propelled gun. This will enable the gunlayer of each gun, theoretically at least, to adjust fire independently without direct communications with the battalion or battery commander, which significantly reduces preparation of the gun for firing. Such a computer may also be used as a backup fire-control system if the communications line with the battalion or battery is broken or overloaded. However, independent calculation of firing data by itself, as foreign press notes, still does ensure the necessary firing effectiveness. It is necessary to reduce the survey control time of guns, which is achieved by using various ground navigation systems capable of computing with a high degree of accuracy the position of the self-propelled gun at a given moment. Use of such systems is especially important under modern combat conditions, since the latest foreign tactical concepts require self-propelled batteries to change positions up to seven times a day.

Thus, as is believed overseas, there is a tendency toward expanding the autonomy of each self-propelled gun or howitzer in order to increase its mobility and survivability. In addition, the need has been identified for a special vehicle for transporting ammunition; it would have the same mobility and armor protection as the self-propelled guns it accompanies. It is desirable to equip the vehicle with a device for rapid unloading of shells. Based on these requirements, the FAASV (M992) vehicle has been developed in the United States for transporting field artillery ammunition.

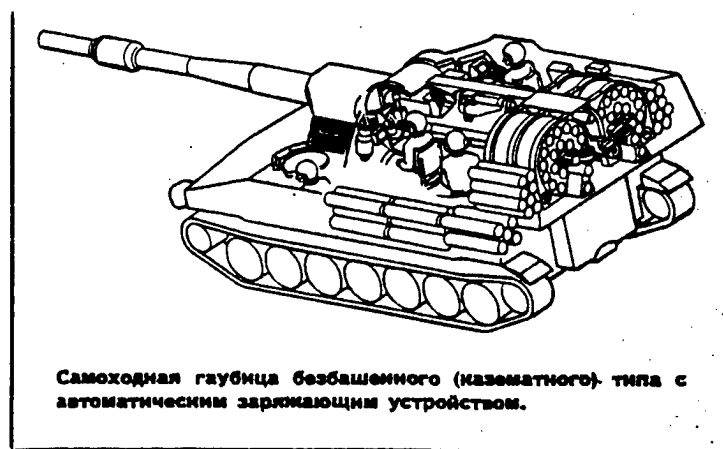


Figure 2. Turretless (casemate) self-propelled howitzer with automatic loader

The United States is actively modernizing self-propelled guns. Within the framework of the ESPAWS Program (development of self-propelled weapons systems), the American Armament Research and Development Command began improving these guns.

Requirements to increase the power of ammunition and develop new projectiles and charges, including the use of modern propellants and Copperhead type projectiles controlled in the active phase of trajectory.

The first concrete step in carrying out this program was the modernization of the M109 self-propelled gun--the M109A2, M109A3, and M109A4 were created. These models have an air conditioner, a fire extinguishing system with automatic sensors, night-vision equipment, an autonomous survey control system, and protection for personnel against weapons of mass destruction [NBC]. One of the directions of modernization was to increase ammunition stowage by placing the rounds in the forward part of the turret.

When improving the guns, it was recommended that they develop a semi-automatic loading mechanism, an automated fire-control system, a new engine configuration, and a pressurization system in the fighting compartment which would make the driving compartment airtight.

Presently, the ESPAWS Program became the DSWS (Divisional Support Weapon System), developing along the following directions: increasing reaction speed, survivability, effect of projectile at the target, reliability, and operability.

Under the DSWS Program, improvement of the M109 is considered more advisable than development of a new model. However, such a possibility, though not likely, is being considered in the near future. It is reported that work will begin on developing a new howitzer immediately after completion of improvements to the M109 howitzer.

Designs being considered under the DSWs Program are divided into the Maxi-PIP Project (three howitzer variants, designated MP3, MP2, and MP1) and the New Start Project (two M109 howitzer variants and a modified SP-70 variant).

Various designs of turretless (casemate) self-propelled guns exist. One of them, developed by U.S. specialists, provides the gun with a barrel 45 calibers long, automatic loading, and a computer for calculating firing data. It is based on an infantry fighting vehicle.

Work is being done in Europe to build an improved variant of the 155mm SP-70 self-propelled howitzer, involving leading companies from Great Britain, the FRG and Italy.

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AFGHANISTAN

DRA OFFICIALS EXAMINE MILITARY SERVICE LAW

LD161513 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] Kabul 16 February TASS--The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council and the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have examined a draft new law on military service, BAKHTAR news agency reported Sunday.

As the draft was discussed, speakers pointed to the growing battleworthiness of the armed forces of Democratic Afghanistan and the readiness of its army, people's militia, security forces and home guard units independently to solve the problem of protecting the country.

The multiple desertions of armed opposition groups to the side of the popular government and their expressed desire to join the army, people's militia and security forces, Bakhtar said, attest to the might and prestige of the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The draft law provides for reducing the term of military service and stresses the need to further enhance the combat capability of the armed forces.

The draft has taken into account suggestions and wishes by the Supreme Extraordinary Commission for National Reconciliation, youth organisations and individual citizens of Afghanistan.

The draft will soon be published in the press.

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AFGHANISTAN

ARMY PAPER REPORTS RETURN OF AFGHAN REFUGEES

PM050945 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Conciliation Process Continues"]

[Text] Kabul, 3 March--An armed group of 40 men in the East Afghan province of Nangarhar has ceased the struggle against revolutionary power.

According to reports from the provinces in the past day 155 Afghan families have returned home from Pakistan and Iran. They were given transportation facilities to travel to their native hamlets in Herat, Nangarhar, and Badakhshan Provinces and were given food, medicines, tents, and other necessities free of charge.

The fund for compatriots returning from abroad at the ("Da Afghanistan Bank") is being swelled with every passing day. A spokesman for the DRA Foreign Ministry has announced that staffers of the DRA Embassy in Tehran have made their contribution--150,000 Iranian rials--to the fund.

A routine session of the Province commission for national conciliation held in Chazni noted that in the past 2 months 230 refugees have returned to the province and 8 armed groups have gone over to the side of the people's power. In accordance with an amnesty decree 69 prisoners have been released and have declared that this humane act will enable them to expiate through labor their guilt toward the people and to struggle in word and deed to end the fratricidal war and restore national concord in Afghanistan.

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AFGHANISTAN

SHOOTDOWN OF DRA TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT ALLEGED

PM121537 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Major A. Oliynik telephone dispatch: "Counterrevolutionary Crime"]

[Text] Kabul, 10 February--All Afghanistan's working people have been shaken and profoundly angered by the counterrevolution's new villainous action. A surface-to-air missile downed an Afghan transport aircraft taking off from Khowst Airport; 30 people, including women and children, were killed along with the 6 crew members.

This act of vandalism has once again shown the entire world the baseness and cruelty of the Dushmans and revealed the true face of the extremists, who spurn the process of national reconciliation being carried out by the PDPA and the revolutionary government. Incapable of opposing national dialogue, the counterrevolutionary camp is venting all its wrath on peaceful citizens, organizing the murder of members of the emergency reconciliation commissions, bombing schools, and shelling cities' residential areas. These barbaric actions have one aim--to wreck the reconciliation process at all costs and drown in blood peaceful Afghans' hopes for peace and national harmony.

"This bloody action is the work of our people's sworn enemies," Colonel (Khodzha Todzhmokhammad), whose plane was also downed last October, stated. It was only thanks to the pilot's courage and skill that the burning plane successfully landed at Kabul Airport. "The counterrevolution wants to scare us and wreck national dialogue by murdering entirely innocent people. But they will not succeed in doing so."

That is echoed today by all honest Afghans and all who ardently support the national reconciliation policy. "There will be no mercy for murderers and the enemies of reconciliation!" It was stated yesterday at a rally of volunteers from the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan who have gone to serve in the border troops.

The national reconciliation process is gathering force and meeting with growing support among the Afghan population.

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END